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PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

App. for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
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**TRANSMITTAL
FORM**

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

4

Application Number

10/535,750

Filing Date

May 20, 2005

First Named Inventor

STAMS et al.

Art Unit

Unassigned

Examiner Name

Unassigned

Attorney Docket Number

72998-012700

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)☐

Fee Transmittal Form

☐

Fee Attached

☐

Amendment/Reply

☐

After Final

☐

Affidavits/declaration(s)

☐

Extension of Time Request

☐

Express Abandonment Request

☒

Information Disclosure Statement

☐

Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)

☐Reply to Missing Parts/
Incomplete Application☐Reply to Missing Parts
under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53☐

Drawing(s)

☐

Licensing-related Papers

☐

Petition

☐Petition to Convert to a
Provisional Application☐

Power of Attorney, Revocation

☐

Change of Correspondence Address

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Terminal Disclaimer

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CD, Number of CD(s) _____

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After Allowance Communication to TC

☐Appeal Communication to Board
of Appeals and Interferences☐Appeal Communication to TC
(Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)☐

Proprietary Information

☐

Status Letter

☒Other Enclosure(s) (please identify
below):11 non-US patent references as cited on
SB08 form

Remarks

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name

Greenberg Traurig, LLP

Signature

Printed name

Charles Berman

Date

December 2, 2005

Reg. No.

29,249

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Sherry B. Kolber

Date

December 2, 2005

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PATENT


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: STAMS et al. Examiner: to be assigned
Serial No. 10/535,750 Group Art Unit: to be assigned
Filed: May 20, 2005 Docket No. 72298-012700
Title: ***PROCESS FOR ANAEROBIC OXIDATION OF METHANE***

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.8

Date of Mailing: December 2, 2005

I hereby certify that this correspondence and identified enclosures are being deposited with the United States Postal Service, first class mail, postage prepaid, under 37 CFR 1.8 on the date indicated, and addressed to MAIL STOP: IDS, Commissioner for Patents, Post Office Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.


Name: Sherry B. Kolber

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT [37 C.F.R. § 1.56]

MAIL STOP: IDS
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Post Office Box 1450
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Sir/Madam:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, applicant brings the references listed on the attached Form PTO/SB08a & b to the examiner's attention. 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. Do not construe the filing of this information disclosure statement as a representation that applicant has made a search (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g)), or as an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists. We enclose copies of any cited foreign documents.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted:

- ☒ 1. Within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d), or within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.491 in an international application; or before the mailing date of a first

Office action on the merits, and therefore, Applicant believes no fee is required;

- ☐ 2. After the period specified in paragraph (1) above of this section, but before the mailing date of either a final action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113, or a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311, whichever occurs first, and is accompanied by either:

- ☐ a. A statement that:

- (i) Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months before the filing of the information disclosure statement; or
- (ii) No item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months before the filing of the information disclosure statement;

- ☐ b. The fee for filing an Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is \$180.00.

- ☐ 3. After the period specified in paragraph (2) of this section, but on or before payment of the issue fee and is accompanied by:

- ☐ a. A statement that:

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(ii) No item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months before the filing of the information disclosure statement;

- ☐ b. A petition requesting consideration of the information disclosure statement; and
- ☐ c. The petition fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i).

Applicant would appreciate the examiner initialing and signing a copy of attached Form PTO-SB08a & b indicating that he or she considered the information and made the information of record.

If the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the PTO determines that an extension or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 50-2638.

Authorization is hereby given to charge any fees due, or credit any overpayment of fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-2638.

Respectfully submitted,



Charles Berman
Reg. No. 29,249

Date: December 2, 2005

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/535,750
Filing Date	May 20, 2005
First Named Inventor	STAMS et al.
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	72998-012700

Sheet	1	of	2
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U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

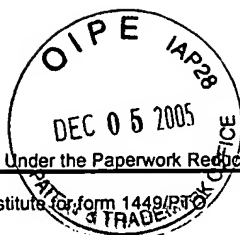
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY			
		WO 02/06503	01-24-2002	Van Ooteghehem		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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PTO/SB/08B (07-05)
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Substitute for form 1449/PTO-100

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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Application Number	10/535,750
Filing Date	May 20, 2005
First Named Inventor	STAMS et al.
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	72998-012700

Sheet 2 of 2

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		Balk et al., "Thermotoga lettingae sp. nov., a novel thermophili, methanol-degrading bacterium isolated from a thermophilic anaerobic reactor," IJSEM, England, July 2002, vol. 52, no. Pt 4, pages 1361-1368	
		Boetius et al., "A marine microbial consortium apparently mediating anaerobic oxidation of methane," Nature (London), vol. 407, no. 6804, 2000, pages 623-626	
		Hoehler et al., "Field and lab studies of methane oxidation in an anoxic marine sediment: Evidence for a...", Global Biogeochemical Cycles, vol. 8, no. 4, 1994, pages 451-463	
		Nauhaus et al., "In vitro demonstration of anaerobic oxidation of methane coupled to sulphate reduction...", Environmental Microbiology, May 2002, vol. 4, no. 5, pgs 296-305	
		Valentine et al., "New perspectives on anaerobic methane oxidation," Environmental Microbiology, England, Oct. 2000, vol. 2, no. 5, pages 477-484	
		Valentine et al., "Hydrogen production by methanogens under low-hydrogen conditions," Archives of Microbiology, Germany, Dec. 2000, vol. 174, no. 6, Dec. 2000, pages 415-421	
		Hinrichs et al., "Methane-consuming archaeobacteria in marine sediments," Nature (London), vol. 398, no. 6730, 29 April 1999, pages 802-805	
		Wery et al., "Diversity of anaerobic heterotrophic thermophiles isolated from deep-sea hydrothermal vents...", FEMS Microbiology Ecology 41 (2002), pgs 105-114	
		Orphan et al., "Multiple archaeal groups mediate in anoxic cold seep sediments," Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci USA, Vol. 99, Issue 11, 7663-7668, May 28, 2002	
		International Search Report for PCT/NL 03/00818 dated March 15, 2004	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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